5/041/025

INSPECTION REPORT

CASE FILE:

UTU-71573

LEGAL:

NE¼ sec 23, T. 26 S., R. 4 W., SLM

INSPECTOR:

Michael K. Jackson, Geologist

DATE of INSPECTION:

June 14, 2000

DATE of REPORT:

July 13, 2000

On June 14, 2000, I inspected Diversified Stone's quarry operation with Lynn Kunzler and Jared Sorenson of the Utah DOGM. Tony Aquiar was present for the first 10-15 minutes, but he had to leave due to an obligation elsewhere. I had called him earlier in the week to inform him about the inspection.

Mr. Aquiar stated that he intends to lower the bench where he is currently mining, which more or less is in the central part of the quarry. In addition, he stated that he may backfill a portion of the quarry that he considers to be mined out. That area seemed to be at the north end of the quarry. I asked Mr. Aquiar to update his mining notice as BLM policy is to have an annual update. I asked that he elaborate and show on a sketch map, where this work would be completed and to describe the work to be completed.

Mr. Aquiar and I briefly discussed the common variety issue. I stated that Dan Netcher, BLM CME, had recently completed a determination on a similar deposit and that Netcher and I would work on preparing BLM's preliminary opinion on this stone. I reminded Aquiar that he could be liable for trespass and administrative costs, if the stone is a common variety. After that, Mr. Aquiar needed to leave due to his other obligation.

Compared to the last inspection, when I surveyed the site in August 1999, Mr. Aquiar has reduced the slope on the southeast end of the pit and eliminated the safety hazard that was associated with the overhanging highwall. I also noted what appeared to be relatively fresh and new boulders that have rolled down the hill slope on the southwest side and near the entrance into the quarry. The operator may be casting material down the slope, and waste rock has rolled across a two-track that is used for quarry access as well as ATV riders. The upper and lower benches, that were present last year, are now, more or less, a single bench at the level of the previous lower bench; thus, that appears to be the area that has been mined since August 1999.

I also noted that the access is not totally the same route that is marked on the map included with the original notice. Mr. Aquiar is using another road on the lower slope that eliminates the lower switchback on the road that is indicated on his notice. Both roads were existing roads, and evidence of heavy equipment traffic is noticeable. At present, the roads have not been widened nor the surface improved or upgraded.

In addition, the operator appears to have staging area for his backhoe and a parking area for his flat bed trailer in the SE¼ section 14. That is not addressed in his notice. Although this appears to be a flat area adjacent to the road that pre-dated his operations, the use of that area needs to be included in the notice.

DOGM staff and I were on site about 30 minutes.

Michael & Jeckson Bim Geologiss

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